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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

**COMMISSIONERS** 

SUSAN BITTER SMITH - Chairman BOB STUMP BOB BURNS DOUG LITTLE TOM FORESE 2015 APR 15 A 9: 22

AZ CORP COMMISS DOCKET CONTROL Arizona Corporation Commission

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IN THE MATTER OF TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY, INC. FOR (1) APPROVAL OF A NET METERING TARIFF AND (2) PARTIAL WAIVER OF THE NET METERING RULES.

DOCKET NO. E-01933A-15-0100

PROCEDURAL ORDER AND NOTIFICATION OF INTERVENTION

## BY THE COMMISSION:

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On March 25, 2015, Tucson Electric Power Company ("TEP" or "Company") filed an Application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") for: (1) approval of a new net-metering tariff for future net metered customers that provides monthly bill credits for any excess energy produced from an eligible net metering facility at a "Renewable Credit Rate" and (2) approval of a partial waiver of the Commission's Net Metering Rules ("A.A.C. R14-2-2301 et seq.). TEP requests that the Commission set this matter for a hearing and issue a procedural schedule that will allow the Commission to consider and approve this application at an open meeting before December 31, 2015.

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On April 1, 2015, TEP filed a Supplement to Application attaching a copy of the proposed tariff.

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On April 6, 2015, TEP filed a Notice of Waiver of any 30-day "time clock" that would apply to the Company's Application.

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On March 27, 2015, Kevin Koch, who states that he is the owner of Technicians for Sustainability, which has installed "over 1,000 solar electric systems in the TEP service territory"

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The proposed "Renewable Credit Rate" is the rate equivalent to the most recent utility scale renewable energy purchased power agreement connected to the Company's distribution system. According to the Application, the current Renewable Credit Rate would be 5.84 cents per kWh. The rate would apply to future DG Customers that qualify for the Commission's Net Metering Rules.

filed a Motion to Intervene in this matter.

On March 30, 2015, the Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") which was established by A.R. S. §40-461, et seq. for the purpose of representing residential utility consumers in matters before the Commission concerning public service corporations, filed an Application to Intervene.

On March 31, 2015, Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association ("AriSEIA") filed an Application to Intervene. AriSEIA is a nonprofit trade association. According to its Application, AriSEIA's Board of Directors passed a motion to intervene in this matter and to authorize its Chairman, Mark Holoham, to act on its behalf in this matter.

On April 2, 2015, The Alliance for Solar Choice ("TASC") filed an Application for Leave to Intervene. TASC is a solar energy advocacy association.

No party objected to any of these intervention requests.

On April 14, 2015, the Commission's Utility Division ("Staff") filed a Request for Procedural Order wherein Staff argued that the issues raised by TEP's Application should be addressed in a rate case, and that the Application should be dismissed. Staff proposed a briefing schedule on its motion to dismiss, and requested a Procedural Conference to consider the procedural course of this matter.

TEP's affiliate, UNS Electric, Inc. ("UNSE"), filed an identical application contemporaneously with TEP's application (Docket No. E-04204A-15-0099); TEP requests that the hearing in this docket be conducted in conjunction, but not consolidated, with the UNSE hearing as the issues and witnesses will be the same. In addition, Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("Trico") has filed an application for a new net metering tariff (Docket No. E-01461A-15-0057) in which parties have raised the same question of whether the tariff needs to be considered in a rate case. While the dockets are distinct and will be evaluated on their own merits, consideration of the "rate case issue" should be coordinated.

A Procedural Conference will be scheduled to discuss the parties' recommendations for proceeding in the current docket. The Procedural Conference will be coordinated with Procedural Conferences for the UNSE and Trico applications.

1 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that intervention in this docket is granted to Mr. Koch, 2 RUCO, AriSEIA, and TASC. 3 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a Procedural Conference shall commence on April 27, 4 2015, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is practical, at the Commission's Tucson offices, Room 222, 400 West Congress, Tucson, Arizona 85701.<sup>2</sup> The parties may appear telephonically by 5 6 using the following conference line: 1-888-450-5996, code 457395#. 7 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ex Parte Rule (A.A.C. R14-3-113 - Unauthorized Communications) shall to apply to this proceeding and shall remain in effect until the Commission's 9 Decision in this matter is final and non-appealable. 10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Presiding Officer may rescind, alter, amend, or waive 11 any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by ruling at hearing. DATED this \ day of April, 2015. 12 13 14 15 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE 16 COPIES of the foregoing mailed this day of April, 2015, to: 17 Michael W. Patten 18 Jason D. Gellman Snell & Wilmer, LLP 19 One Arizona Center 400 East Van Buren Street 20 Phoenix, AZ 85004 Attorneys for TEP 21 Bradley S. Carroll 22 Tucson Electric Power Company 88 East Broadway Blvd., MS HOE910 23 **PO Box 711** Tucson, AZ 85702 24 Kevin M. Koch 25 PO Box 42103 Tucson, AZ 85733 26 27

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The TEP and UNSE Procedural Conferences will be heard concurrently, although they are not being consolidated.

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